

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 736  
By Jackson

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Private Justin E. Curtis for his meritorious service to the United States Army as evidenced by his receipt of the Purple Heart.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans continue this time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in the United States Armed Services; and

WHEREAS, Private Justin E. Curtis is one such brave and estimable soldier serving in the United States Army, who recently received the Purple Heart during a special ceremony at Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who have been wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of an enemy, and is posthumously awarded to the next of kin in the name of those who have been killed in action or who died of wounds received in action; Purple Hearts have been awarded for action in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, and up to and including more recent conflicts at the end of the last century and the beginning of this century; and

WHEREAS, while valiantly serving with the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment in Iraq, Private Curtis suffered shrapnel wounds when his quarters in Fallujah were hit by three grenades; and

WHEREAS, a native of Waverly, Tennessee, and a 2001 graduate of Waverly Central High School, Private Curtis entered the U.S. Army one year after graduation; and

WHEREAS, knowing the value of education, Private Curtis intends to pursue his undergraduate degree through the U.S. Army; and

WHEREAS, Private Curtis shares a loving companionship with his wife, the former Lauren Elizabeth Steer; the couple were united in holy matrimony on December 20, 2003, and now reside at Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, Colorado, where Private Curtis is stationed; and

WHEREAS, a great source of pride for his family, Private Curtis is the son of Eugene and Susan Curtis, brother of John Sawyer Curtis, and the grandson of Annette Curtis, Avon E. Curtis, the late Mary Ruth Mitchell Evans, and Mitchell Berg; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, Tennesseans have been inspired by those who have earned the Purple Heart to renewed confidence, loyalty, and support for the United States Armed Forces; their combat wounds remind us of their great valor and unshaken commitment to the preservation of this nation, its liberty, and its way of life; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are profoundly appreciative of the selfless sacrifice made by Tennesseans who have served their nation in the United States Armed Forces, especially those who have received combat wounds, and have thus been awarded the Purple Heart for their heroic service to this state and nation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Private Justin E. Curtis upon the receipt of the Purple Heart, commend his meritorious service in the United States Army, and offer our thanks for a difficult job well done.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.